

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF MAY 3.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on May 3, 1921, in the American Museum of Natural History, President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair with 19 members present.

In view of the Treasurer's statement as to cost of furnishing reprints, it was, on motion of Dr. Lutz, voted to double the charge therefor in future.

Mr. J. A. Tyson, 626 Ave. H, Brooklyn, was elected an active member.

Mr. H. B. Weiss read an exhaustive paper on "Gypsy Moth Control in New Jersey" which will be printed elsewhere. It was copiously illustrated by photographs and specimens; and, especially in the astonishing figures of the expenditures involved, excited great interest. The spread seems to be towards the ocean in New Jersey and Mr. Weiss thought something was bound to get by sooner or later.

Mr. E. A. Bischoff exhibited his collection of the small and difficult weevils of the genus *Apion*, remarking that while among the smallest and least known of beetles, their variations in form, in length of snout, in color and form of legs, made them of great interest. Of the 28 species in the New Jersey List, 25 had been collected as well as 3 more probably new. The food plants of 9 species are known. Long series, carefully mounted by Mr. Bischoff and identified by Mr. H. C. Fall, were exhibited.

Dr. Bequaert in reviewing Carpenter's "Naturalist on Lake Victoria" gave a minute account of that author's remarks on sleeping sickness and of his own observations thereon while in Africa, using lantern slides to illustrate his remarks.

The impossibility of the disease being transmitted in this country, where the tsetse fly does not occur, was emphasized.

MEETING OF OCTOBER 4.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on October 4, 1921, in the American Museum of Natural History, President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair, with 24 members and two visitors present.

The Curator announced that the second and fourth Saturday of each month would find him in attendance in his room on the fifth floor, for the benefit of those wishing to study the local collection.

Mr. Davis proposed Mr. John Tee-Van for active membership.

Mr. Barber proposed Mr. Mortimer D. Leonard.

On motion by Mr. Woodruff, the by-laws were suspended and both gentlemen were immediately elected.

The President called for notes on summer collecting.

Mr. Olsen exhibited an entirely red specimen of *Acanalonia bivittata*, an entirely blue *Drachulacephala mollipes*, the second New Jersey specimen of *Caresa albescens*, and *Archasia belfragei*.

Mr. Dickerson spoke of his local collecting trips with Mr. Bischoff and of the excellence of some of the localities.

Mr. Neilsen described his results in collecting Mantids.

Mr. Tee-Van mentioned some of his successes in British Guiana, and promised to speak at greater length at a subsequent meeting.

Messrs. Mutchler, Quirsfeld and Angell spoke briefly.

Mr. Shoemaker had been as usual very active with visits to Wayne Co., Pa., in June, Washington in July and again in September. 140 traps were planted along the Potomac River and Cabin John Run, and with the help of Messrs. Davis and Nicolay, 33 *Cychnus* and countless other insects were found in the molasses. Some of the *Cychnus* were found under stones and logs.

Dr. Lutz had made several trips to Interstate Park and Brown's Mills, N. J., in his new camping, collecting automobile (of which photographs were shown), with a view of testing its capability for work in the Rocky Mts. next summer.

Mr. Woodruff, collecting near Litchfield, Conn., had added a few beetles to the Conn. list and some new facts re Membracids. He mentioned also with pleasure visits from Professor Wheeler and Wm. Beebe.

Mr. Nicolay had also spent much of the summer in the field. Besides being in Washington with Messrs. Shoemaker and Davis, he had sifted assiduously for Pselaphidæ at Montclair and Avon and had made one extensive trip to the summit of Mt. Washington with Mr. Mason of Philadelphia. There in June Carabidæ were abundant, but collecting otherwise had been disappointing.

Mr. Davis had preferred to visit warmer climates than Mt. Washington and spoke of his visit to Colonel Robinson's home on the James River, Virginia, and the trip to Washington, when he stayed with Clarence Shoemaker in Georgetown. One of the results of this trip is the note on Katydid published in "Miscellaneous Notes" in which one of the results of his nocturnal wanderings on Staten Island also appears. He exhibited these Katydids and a female of the large black bot-fly *Cuterebra buccata*, taken at Tottenville, Staten Island, June 3, 1921. The fly when first seen was hovering about the low vegetation in a narrow lane. It flew away but returned, and again hovered about the low plants, when it was captured. He suggested that the insect might have been in the act of laying eggs in a suitable spot frequented by rabbits. Those animals often return again and again to the same place to feed, and he instanced a garden in Virginia where they paid particular attention to one part of a row of beans. On behalf of Mr. Edward J. Burns, he showed a female *Cuterebra cuniculi* collected at Sand's Point on Long Island, July 2, 1921. In this instance the fly was a little distance out on a meadow bordering the salt marsh.

Mr. Davis also presented a bound copy of his papers on Cicadas heretofore published in the JOURNAL.

Mr. Barber described his unusual experiences at Indian Lake, 23 miles by stage from North Creek in the Adirondacks, where, at an elevation of 1,600 ft., in August he had found many rare Hemiptera hiding amid the basal leaves of mullein. He promised to give more details at the next meeting.

Dr. Marchand described his success at Mendham, N. J., in sieving the larvæ of *Chrysops* and Tabanid flies from the mud of brooks and ponds with a kitchen strainer and in subsequently rearing some adults. Later in the summer he had observed some new facts in the oviposition of *Megarhyssa*.

Mr. Engelhardt had also some experiences with *Megarhyssa* to relate, especially of males waiting for female to emerge. He spoke also of his success in tracing early stages of clear-wings and of finding a new species in flat white topped aster. He had made two auto trips to Vermont and had found Hepialidæ there; and a trip to Washington during which he visited Plummer's Island and found a rare species of *Papaipema* now in the hands of Mr. Bird. Mr. Engelhardt described with enthusiasm the pack rats of Plummer's Island and the persimmons of nearby Virginia.

Mr. Ruckes described the eggs, 1 mm. long, of certain Tingitidæ he had found in the New Jersey pine barrens and the pushing off by the emerging nymph of the lid at one end.

Dr. Bequaert spoke of a visit to Boston where he found one of Prof. Wheeler's students working out an interesting and novel method of studying life history of Chrysid wasps. He showed also an illustration of the variations in the markings of the palm weevil, in the Guide to Nature, and a Boston and Maine R. R. folder, in which illustrations of Mt. Washington butterflies appeared with text by C. W. Johnson, who had given them to him. Dr. Bequaert had also visited Washington and while there found on Plummer's Island the fossorial wasp since described by Nathan Banks as *Entomognathus memorialis*. Then he went to Ithaca and in company with Prof. Bradley investigated the tract of wild land known as McLean Bogs, which had been presented to Cornell University by the uncle of Mr. J. T. Lloyd, and found among other interesting things a bright red ant, *Aphanogaster tennesseensis*, nesting in very moist stumps.

Dr. Bequaert also contributed to the minutes newspaper clippings relating to a visitation of fleas in the city.

Dr. Sturtevant said he would speak later of his year and a half in California and mentioned only his discovery of *Drosophila sigmoidea* at Fort Lee, N. J., on October 2.

Mr. Bell had devoted his summer to collecting Hesperiidæ on Long Island.

Mr. Hall had spent two weeks collecting butterflies in the Rocky Mts.

Mr. Johnson had made an interesting observation on the behavior of *Polistes* wasps, whose nest was destroyed late in the summer; whereupon they apparently despaired of completing another, and took possession of a deserted nest of *Vespa maculata*.

This prompted Mr. Engelhardt to tell of a *Vespa crabro* nest in a shelter in Prospect Park, with an upper and lower entrance and containing hundreds of these large wasps. Many unsuspecting persons use the seats in the shelter and though their heads are only four or five feet from the nest, no one has yet been stung.

Mr. Davis said he believed *Vespa* could actually be tamed. He knew of a nest near a window sash that was continually being raised and lowered without annoyance to the wasps.

Mr. Leng told of the re-discovery by Warren Knaus of *Cicindela nevadica*.

Mr. Sherman spoke of the success of Chas. B. Wilson at Fairport, Iowa, in breeding water beetles and of the great changes, due to increased tourist travel, in the White Mts. where all the accommodations are constantly in use and it is now not unusual to meet fifty people a day on the trails. Mr. Sherman mentioned his acquisition of the correspondence of Philip R. Uhler and of its extraordinary interest from the number of people who had appealed to Uhler for entomological aid.

Mr. A. G. Penrod, 516 West 175th St., exhibited, as a visitor, about forty photographs of entomological subjects. They were all on 8 x 10 plates, taken by such skilful management of the light that every detail was reproduced.

MEETING OF OCTOBER 18.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held on October 18, 1921, at 8 P.M., in the American Museum of Natural History, President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair, with 22 members and 4 visitors present.

Mr. Davis announced that the Brooklyn Museum had on exhibition in the main hall Mr. Shoemaker's large picture of butterflies and moths, in which hundreds of species are represented in color. The extraordinary patience and skill which have contributed to produce this accurate piece of work make its completion one of the entomological events of the year.

Mr. Davis called attention also to the article by Mr. Weiss in *The Scientific Monthly* on "Field Crop Yields in New Jersey from 1876 to 1919" as an example of splendid statistical work, bringing out clearly the increased productivity of New Jersey farms and the causes; and to an interesting article by P. M. Buck, Jr., entitled "In Praise of Ants," published in the *Independent and Weekly Review*, from which he read some entertaining selections.

Mr. Barber read a paper "Collecting Hemiptera in the Adirondacks" illustrated by several boxes of specimens. The locality was Sabael, on Indian Lake, in Hamilton County, at elevations of 1,800 feet or more. Among the basal leaves of mullein, *Spharobius insignis*, resembling a fairly large

black ant in behavior as well as appearance, was not uncommon. Hiding in the dead leaves and moss among the grass roots he found *Ptochiomera ferruginea*, a species hitherto rare in collections, *Plinthisus compactus*, *Kolenetris planus*, *Xestocoris nitens*, *Stygnocoris ferrugineus* and *Trapezotus arenarius*. In the thick layers of leaves of several years accumulation, several other species were found, and in the moss that grew in damp shady spots still more, including the European *Sciocorus microphthalmus* and *Stynocoris rusticus*. Along with these Hemiptera, mostly obtained by sifting, were many beetles which had been turned over to Mr. Notman; and to take in a single summer five or six rare species in such numbers, Mr. Barber characterized as quite an event.

Mr. Barber mentioned that the Homoptera shown had been identified by Mr. C. E. Olsen.

Dr. Bequaert delivered an address on "Hymenoptera Accidentally or Purposely Introduced in the United States" on which subject he said his studies, while still incomplete, showed about 50 such species already, of which 19 were certainly intentional introductions. The difficulty of separating circumpolar from introduced species of early date; the history of the introduction of hymenopterous parasites to combat economic pests; and the early records of honeybees were given with references to early travels, etc., in which mention of them had been found. The causes which prevented rapid dispersal in some instances were discussed by Dr. Bequaert and by several members at the close of his remarks.